THE

Board of Trade Journal.

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The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at **73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.** — registered telegraphic address, "**Advantage, London,**" Code—**5th Edition A.B.C.**, telephone number **12807 Central.** A statement of the objects and work of the Branch will be found on p. 654–5.

The attention of British traders is directed to the Sample Room, where the following are on view, with other exhibits:—

Samples.	Reference in "Board of Trade Journal." Date.	Page.
Cotton Goods of German and Italian Manufacture sold in Palestine	19th Mar., 1908	592
Raw Silk from Buenos Aires	" " "	593
Petroleum from Commodoro Rivadavia	" " "	591
Ramie (various)	" " "	592
Rubber from Bogotá	12th " "	546
Silk Production at Hochou	5th " "	499
Kapok from Loanda	20th Feb., "	395
Cotton from Tunis	6th " "	297
Rubber Seeds from Angola	30th Jan., "	243
Native-made Hat, Shawl and Belt from Erzeroum ...	" " "	218
Human Hair from Japan	" " "	229
Vegetable Marrow from Chungking	23rd " "	196
Tobacco, Cigars, Cigarettes and Snuff from the Transvaal	26th Dec., 1907	625
Haricot Beans from Russia	5th " "	444
Wood paving block from Argentina	" " "	479
Cotton from Argentina	28th Nov., "	423
Japanese frog skins	" " "	426
Angola Root and other Rubber, St. Thomé Cocoa and Almadeina Gum	21st " "	378
Copper ore from Rhodesia	7th " "	274
Landolphia rubber from Natal	" " "	278
Vegetable asbestos produced in Chungking	24th Oct., "	183
Locally manufactured native silk from Crete	17th " "	120
Gum arabic from Egypt	3rd " "	33
Talc from Venezuela...	" " "	29

The following Special Trade Enquiry Offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—India, Dominion of Canada, Queensland, Transvaal and Orange River Colony. Statements of the objects and work of these Enquiry Offices will be found on pp. 655–6.

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

BRITISH INDIA.

Rails, Cast-iron Pot Sleepers, Fishbolts and Workshop Machines.

The Directors of the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway are prepared to receive, up to noon on the 31st March, tenders for the supply of the following stores, viz.:—1. Rails and fishplates (one specification); 2. Cast-iron pot sleepers; 3. Fishbolts and nuts; 4. Workshop machines. Tenders must be made on forms, copies of which, with

Openings for British Trade.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

specifications, can be obtained at the Offices of the Company, Gloucester House, 2, 3 and 4, Bishopsgate Street Without, London, E.C., on payment of 21*s.* each (which will not be returned). The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

Steel and Ironwork for Wagons.

The Directors of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply of steel and ironwork for wagons. Specifications and forms of tender may be obtained at the Company's Offices, 48, Copthall Avenue, London, E.C., on payment of the fee (£1) for the specification, which payment will not be returned. Tenders must be delivered in sealed envelopes, addressed to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Steel and Ironwork for Wagons," not later than 11 a.m. on the 2nd April. The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

CANADA.

Commercial Enquiries.

The following commercial enquiries have been received at the **Canadian Government Offices, 17, Victoria Street, London, S.W.,** whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

HOME ENQUIRIES.

A Manchester firm of general merchants desire to open up correspondence with Canadian lumber firms with a view to importing supplies of **wood flour**, for which they have enquiries.

A firm of felt manufacturers in Yorkshire are desirous of getting into touch with producers of **asbestos** in Canada.

Enquiry has been made by a Lancashire firm for the names of Canadian exporters of **asbestos** to the United Kingdom.

A London firm desire to secure the agency of reliable Canadian packers of **canned salmon and lobster.**

A London firm of general merchants and importers wish to hear from Canadian exporters of **furniture** (particularly **bentwood chairs)** and **timber.**

A London firm of general merchants are desirous of securing the agency of Canadian exporters of the following:—**grain; evaporated apples; tallow, greases, paraffin wax; minerals, nickel and copper matte, mica, phosphates; canned goods, &c.**

A Scottish firm desire the names of Canadian shippers of **scrap steel** and **malleable iron.**

CANADIAN ENQUIRIES.

A Canadian firm interested in the mining and manufacture of **mica** desire to get into touch with United Kingdom importers of that product.

Openings for British Trade.

CANADA—*continued.*

Enquiry has been received from a Canadian correspondent for the names of United Kingdom firms in the **butter** trade who might like to appoint him as their buying agent.

A commission merchant in Hamilton, Ont., desires to secure the agency of one or two United Kingdom importers and exporters of **grocery specialities.**

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the High Commissioner for Canada, 17, Victoria Street, S.W.

The following commercial enquiries have been received at the **Canadian Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.,** whence further information regarding them may be obtained :—

HOME ENQUIRIES.

A London firm manufacturing **boot and metal polishes, toilet specialities,** and other novelties, would be prepared to appoint a resident Canadian agent for the sale of these goods.

A London firm are desirous of obtaining the services of a Canadian agent, possessing a connection among glass manufacturers, for the sale of their English **white powdered arsenic.**

CANADIAN ENQUIRIES.

A Toronto firm are prepared to represent United Kingdom houses requiring an agent in Canada for the sale of the following goods :—Floor, wall and roofing **tiles,** or **mosaic work; fire clay, fire bricks, boiler covers** and **seating blocks; plumbers' supplies,** in the shape of **brackets, pendants, electroliers,** brass and other **fittings for gas and electricity,** including **arc lamps;** also **slates** for billiard tables or roofs.

A manufacturers' agent in British Columbia is desirous of obtaining some good English agencies in **cutlery** and **plated goods,** and also in **galvanised iron, tin plate,** and general **hardware.**

A Winnipeg company, with connections throughout Canada, would like to get into communication with United Kingdom manufacturers of **chocolates, cocoas, etc.,** with a view to securing agencies for the whole of the Dominion.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government City Trade Branch, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

NATAL.

Plant for Biscuit and Candle Factories: Wharf Construction.

The Board of Trade Correspondent at Durban (Mr. A. D. C. Agnew) reports, on the authority of the "Natal Mercury," that a well-known English biscuit manufacturing firm have acquired an option on several lots of the area lately reclaimed at Congella, on which it is proposed to erect a factory capable of producing 150 tons per week.

Openings for British Trade.

It is further reported, but without confirmation, that an English firm of candle manufacturers have decided to build a factory at Congella.

In consequence of the growing desire for accommodation there, it is probable, the "Mercury" remarks, that it may be found necessary to construct another 500 feet of wharfage, thus bringing up the line of wharfage to a total of 2,000 feet.

EGYPT.

Paper and Envelopes.

H.M. Consul at Cairo (Mr. A. D. Alban) has forwarded a copy of the specification and conditions of tender for the supply of paper and envelopes for the use of the various Administrations of the Egyptian Government during the years 1909, 1910 and 1911. Tenders, on stamped paper of 30 millièmes (obtainable from Lieut.-Col. Western, whose address is given below), must reach the Central Office of the Ministry of Finance, Cairo, not later than noon on the 28th May. Samples of the paper and envelopes it is intended to supply must be sent in with the tenders. A deposit equal to 10 per cent. of the amount of the offer is required to qualify any tender.

The copy of the specification and conditions of tender may be inspected by British manufacturers at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

Haversacks, Brushes, Horse and Mule Rugs, Horse Sponges, Saddlery, Horseshoes, and Horseshoe Nails.

The Egyptian Government have issued a call for tenders for the supply to the War Department of 8,000 haversacks, 2,500 horse brushes, 500 horse rugs, 700 mule rugs, 2,000 horse sponges (india-rubber no. 5), 50 saddles, 100,000 horseshoe nails, 10,000 horseshoes, 30 officers' saddles (iron arch no. 2), and rank and file saddlery. Tender forms may be obtained and patterns inspected at the offices of Lieut.-Col. J. H. Western, R.E., C.M.G., Queen Anne's Chambers, Broadway, Westminster, London, S.W., to whom tenders are to be returned, to arrive by first post on the 4th May. They are to remain open for 30 days from that date.

Silk; Silver and Gilt Thread.

The Egyptian "Journal Officiel" of 14th March announces that the Ministry of Finance invite tenders for the supply of 322 okes of silk, viz.:—133 okes of silk "Aksira" for warp and 189 okes of "Italian" silk for woof; and for the supply of 18,750 mitkals of silver and gilt thread, both required for the making of the Holy Carpet. Any person wishing to tender should apply to the Secrétariat, Ministry of Finance, Cairo, in order to see the specifications and examine samples. Tenders, on stamped paper

of 30 millièmes (obtainable from Lieut.-Col. Western, as in the preceding notice), and enclosed in sealed envelopes addressed to the Secrétariat, Ministry of Finance, Cairo, will be received up to noon on the 14th May.

Oke = 2·75 lb.; mitkal = 71·49 grains.

NORWAY.

Coal.

H.M. Consul at Christiania (Mr. F. E. Drummond-Hay) reports that the Norwegian Naval Authorities at Horten have issued a call for tenders* for the supply of 6,000 tons of Cardiff coal. Tenders are to be marked "Anbud paa Kul" and delivered at "Marinens Intendantur," Horten, by 1 p.m. on the 2nd April.

A copy of the conditions of tender may be consulted by British firms on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

DENMARK.

Cables for Electric Lighting Purposes.

H.M. Consul at Copenhagen (Mr. L. C. Liddell) has forwarded a copy of the conditions and specification relating to a call for tenders for the supply of cables for electric lighting purposes. Tenders should be marked "Tilbud paa Vekselstrømskabeler," and should reach Direktøren for Københavns Belysningsvaesen, Copenhagen, before midday on the 31st March.

The conditions and specification may be consulted by British makers on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

NETHERLANDS.

Cast Iron Tubes.

H.M. Consul at Rotterdam (Mr. H. Turing) reports that tenders will be received up to the 6th April by the "Commissie voor de Drinkwaterleiding der gemeente Rotterdam" (Committee for the Waterworks of Rotterdam), for the supply and delivery of 1,347,600 kilograms (about 1,326 tons) of cast-iron tubes.

H.M. Consul has forwarded a copy of the specification and drawing, which may be inspected by British makers on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

* In all cases of Norwegian Government contracts it is obligatory that a resident agent should act for tenderers not residing in Norway, and be responsible to the Government, but it is not necessary for the agent to be a Norwegian firm.

Openings for British Trade.

NETHERLANDS—*continued.*

Gas Coal.

H.M. Consul at Amsterdam (Mr. W. A. Churchill) reports that the Municipal Gas Factory at Nimeguen invite tenders, which will be received up to the 7th April, for the supply of 20,000 tons of English gas coal. Specifications are obtainable at the office of the Municipal Secretary, Nimeguen, at a cost of 10 cents (2d.) per copy.

FRANCE—NEW CALEDONIA.

Galvanised Iron, Ship Chandlery, Steel Cables, &c.

The Acting British Consul at Noumea (Mr. T. Maning) gives the following list of articles of British manufacture that find a market in New Caledonia:—Galvanised iron (26-gauge preferred), ship chandlery, steel cables for mines, light steel rails for tramways, butchers' knives, sheet copper, and galvanised screws.

Cotton Goods.

The value of the imports of drapery into the Island in 1906, says the Acting Consul, was 50,053*l.*, a very large portion of which represented goods of British origin, principally calicoes, coloured prints, navy bafts and other lines such as white and coloured singlets, jerseys, &c. Although trade has fallen off greatly during the past two years, still the native demand for bafts, prints and coloured singlets is marked; many of these latter are supplied by German manufacturers, who have taken great pains to make an article to enable traders to cut the price, and seem to have succeeded in doing so.

The one line of British manufacture that seems to hold its own is blue dungaree, which is bought freely by the natives, although the duty is heavy. The natives use this article (in piece) in place of trousers, in the form of a waist cloth, which gives them more freedom in their work on shipboard, in the mines, and on the plantations. This line seems to be preferred to the American denim in piece, but the latter holds the pride of place for trousers and jumpers.

TUNIS.

Electric Lighting Plant.

According to the "Journal Officiel Tunisien" of 13th March, a company, under the title of "La Compagnie Electrique de Bizerte," has been formed at Tunis to carry out the electric lighting of Bizerta.

Openings for British Trade.

SPAIN.

Telephone Installation.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of the 15th March announces a public competition for the establishment of inter-urban telephonic communication between Las Palmas and Arucas, in the island of Gran Canaria. Sealed tenders must be presented, within 30 days from the date of publication in the "Gaceta," either at the Civil Administration of the Canaries, or at the Registry of the Dirección General de Telégrafos, Calle de Carretas 10, Madrid. The contract will be adjudicated at noon on the fifth day after the expiration of the period for the receipt of tenders. Tenders which do not follow the model form of tender published in the "Gaceta," which exceed the price of 617·24 pesetas per kilometre, and 1,470·48 pesetas for each connecting station, or which are not guaranteed by a provisional deposit of 667 pesetas, will not be considered. Non-Spanish tenderers should be represented at the adjudication.

The "Gaceta" named, containing the conditions of contract and model form of tender, may be consulted by British firms on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

Electric Tramway Plant.

The same "Gaceta" notifies that the Compañía Eléctrica Madrileña de Tracción has applied for a concession for an electric tramway in Madrid, and that a period of one month has been appointed for the presentation at the Dirección General de Obras Públicas, Madrid, of propositions in terms more favourable to the Government.

ROUMANIA.

Bar Iron, Iron Plates, and Machinery.

H.M. Consul at Bucharest (Mr. O. Wardrop) reports the announcement in the "Monitorul Oficial" of the grant of privileges under the Industrial Law as follows:—

(1) To Adolf Weidman's agricultural machine shops, at Craiova, the right to import, duty-free, 14 truck loads of rolled bar iron, and 6 truck loads of rectangular iron plates;

(2) To Nedelcu P. Chercea's proposed nail and wire works at No. 3 Str. Malului, Braila, the right to import, duty-free, the necessary machinery;

(3) To Hodan & Cave's proposed sock and stocking factory at Jassy, the right to import, duty-free, the necessary machinery;

(4) To I. A. Grigorescu's baize (frieze) factory at Vaideni, Vâlcea, the right to import, duty-free, the necessary machinery.

(5) To the Brickworks of Antonio Bertoli and fin at Jassy, the right to import, duty-free, the necessary machinery.

Openings for British Trade.

CRETE.

Agent for British Firms.

H.M. Consul-General at Canea (Mr. A. Peel) has been notified by a merchant in Canea of the latter's desire to act as agent for British firms in such businesses as maritime and life insurance, as well as for the sale of codfish, hats, clothing, &c., colours and paints, candles, yarns, leather, paper, glass, crockery, cutlery, soap, soda, pepper, tea, metals, &c., &c. Communications from British firms desiring representation in Crete should be addressed to H.M. Consul-General at Canea.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

War Department Contracts: Preference to Domestic Materials. Hawaii Harbour Works.

In reply to an enquiry as to the possibility of British firms' competing for the contract for the construction of a pier and harbour at Hilo, Hawaii, or obtaining orders for the supply of any of the materials required in connection therewith, the British Commercial Agent in the United States (Mr. E. Seymour Bell) has forwarded, along with copies of the specification, &c., for the harbour works indicated, information that he has received from the United States War Department as to the procedure adopted generally by that Department towards foreign competitors for their contracts.

Copies of the specification referred to may be examined by British firms interested on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. It may be noted that the time allotted for receipt of tenders expires on the 31st March.

It appears that section 2 of the Act of 3rd March, 1875 (18 Stats. 455) requires that "in all contracts for material for any public improvement the Secretary of War shall give preference to American material, and all labour thereon shall be performed within the jurisdiction of the United States." Based on the above law, Form 40, "Instructions to Bidders," approved by the Secretary of War and issued by the officers of the Corps of Engineers to intending bidders, notifies that "preference will be given to articles or materials of domestic production, conditions of quality and price being equal, including in the price of foreign articles the duty thereon." The Fortification Act of 2nd March, 1907 (34 Stats. 1062), requires "that all material purchased under the foregoing provisions of this Act shall be of American manufacture, except in cases when, in the judgment of the Secretary of War, it is to the manifest interest of the United States to make purchases in limited quantities abroad, which material shall be admitted free of duty." Under this law, materials, particularly cements, have been purchased abroad, generally through or from the local agent representing the foreign firm. Contracts are entered into by the district officers in charge of the improvements, to whom requests for blanks and detailed information should be addressed.

Textiles. See notice on pp. 641–2.

Openings for British Trade.

MEXICO.

Hydraulic Power Plant.

The Mexican "Diarios Oficiales" of the 28th February and 2nd and 3rd March notify the following contracts and applications for concessions for the appropriation of water power for industrial purposes:—

"Diario."	Applicants.	River.	State.
Contracts—			
28th February	Sr. Eduardo Castañeda, representing Sr. Jesús Cárdenas	Guayalejo ...	Tamaulipas.
2nd March ...	Sr. Gabriel F. Martínez, representing Sr. Miguel Peón	San Juan del Río	México, Hidalgo and Querétaro.
Applications for Concessions—			
28th February	Sres. R. Montemayor y hijos	Guayalejo ...	Tamaulipas.
3rd March ...	Sres. Félix Rodríguez Alva y Juan J. Orozco... ...	Lerma	Michoacán.

Railway Plant.

The "Diario" of the 3rd March notifies the signing of a contract between the Government and Sr. Hipólito Duvergey, representing the Compañía Industrial de El Oro, S.A. (the concessionaire of the railway between the station of La Huerta, of the Michoacán-Pacific railway), and the municipality of Tlalpujahua. By the terms of the contract the concessionaire undertakes to complete the construction of at least 10 kilometres by the 14th of August, 1909, and at least another 10 kilometres in each year following, in order that the whole line may be completed by the 14th of February, 1913.

BRAZIL.

Port Works.

With reference to the notices which appeared on p. 267 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 6th February, and p. 166 of the issue for 23rd January, relative to a call for tenders by the Brazilian Ministry of Public Works, for presentation in Rio de Janeiro up to 26th March, for the construction of port works at Recife, a telegram has now been received from H.M. Consul-General at Rio de Janeiro (Mr. A. Chapman) to the effect that the date to which tenders will be received has been postponed to the 10th April.

State of Trade in Minas Geraes.

H.M. Vice-Consul at Rio de Janeiro (Mr. G. Campbell) reports, with regard to openings for trade in the interior of the State of Minas Geraes, that the scattered population, and the lack of money, must be considered. There are several small towns of 1,000 to 5,000 inhabitants who depend on

Openings for British Trade.

BRAZIL—*continued.*

small factories for their existence and cannot afford more than bare necessities. Goods brought up from the coast pay transport and inter-State taxes, and are soon beyond the means of the ordinary native. An example of the lack of trade is shown by the fact that a short time ago the station of Honorio Bicalho was second on the list of traffic returns for the Minas Geraes portion of the Central Railway, owing to the stores and machinery conveyed for the Morro Velho mine, probably a matter of some 85,000*l.*

Electrical Plant.

There are abundant supplies of water, which are being used for working the mines and for lighting towns. There is a great future for electricity in the country, and it is already developed to a considerable extent. Small towns of 4,000 inhabitants have electric light, and some have trams. Add to this that there are numbers of small factories whose existence must depend on economy, that butter and cheese are made in large quantities, and that Brazil is ambitious to become a manufacturing country, and there should be many opportunities for electrical engineers.

Smelting Plant.

There is one industry, however, which is still undeveloped, namely, smelting. The whole of the elevated region constituting the centre of Minas Geraes is notably rich in iron ores, whose purity is remarkable, but the difficulty remains that the iron cannot be converted on the spot into commercial products until some economical method of smelting is discovered. It is said that electricity would be too expensive, but, with the existing water power, it seems that this would be the best solution unless the price of coke is considerably reduced. The school of mines at Ouro Preto is shortly going to make some experiments in smelting.

Mining Machinery.

The development of the mining industry will afford an opening for machinery and implements, and if the shortage of labour continues, electrically worked tools will be used as far as possible.

Miners' Lamps.

With regard to miners' lamps, a German make is the most patronised. These lamps are lighter than the British. They last four hours or half the "shift," but the men have their own supply of oil for replenishing them. A light colza oil is the best.

A sample of the German lamp, together with details as to price, &c., may be examined by British makers at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

Agricultural Machinery.

Agriculture is being encouraged by the Government, and model farms have been started, where lessons and advice will be given and ploughs and simple machinery supplied at reasonable rates. So far ploughs have not been used, but there should now be an opportunity for their sale. Owing to the hilly nature of the country they ought to combine lightness and strength.

EXHIBITIONS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

International Rubber and Allied Trades' Exhibition.

With reference to the notice on p. 471 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 5th March, respecting the International Rubber and Allied Trades' Exhibition, the Board of Trade are notified that, owing to the large number of applications for space, the above Exhibition will be held at Olympia instead of at the Royal Horticultural Hall, and will be open from the 14th to the 26th September next.

RUSSIA.

International Building and Artistical Exhibition.

H.M. Consul at St. Petersburg (Mr. A. W. W. Woodhouse) has forwarded a further supply of prospectuses and forms of application for space for the International Building and Artistical Exhibition, to be opened at St. Petersburg on the 15th May (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 12th March, p. 521). Application has been made to the Russian Government for permission to keep the exhibition open to the middle of October, and this, says the Consul, is almost certain to be granted.

The prospectuses and forms of application may be obtained by persons interested at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

FRANCE.

International Electrical Exhibition at Marseilles.

With reference to recent notices in the "Board of Trade Journal" (p. 537 of the 12th March, and p. 372 of the 20th February, &c.), relative to an international exhibition of electrical appliances to be held at Marseilles from 19th April to 31st October, 1908, the Board of Trade have now received from H.M. Embassy at Paris a number of copies of the programme of the exhibition and forms of application for space. These may be obtained by British firms interested on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. The latest date to which entries will be received is the 15th April.

SPAIN.

Agricultural Show at Madrid.

With reference to the notice on p. 522 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 12th March respecting an Agricultural Show to be held at Madrid from the 22nd to the 27th May next, it is notified by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries that any horse sent to compete from this country will require to be accompanied on its return to Great Britain by a certificate of a veterinary surgeon to the effect that he examined the animal immediately before it was embarked, or whilst it was on board the vessel, as the case may be, and that he found that the animal showed no symptom of glanders. Cattle, sheep and pigs could not be returned to this country,

TRADE OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND BRITISH POSSESSIONS.

The following summary table has been prepared by the Board of Trade showing the total imports and exports of merchandise of the principal countries for which the particulars can be given up to December, 1907, inclusive, and referring in all cases to the same period, viz., the twelve months ended December. The corresponding figures for 1906 and 1905 are added for comparison:—

—	Imports (*see* NOTE below). Twelve Months ended December.			Exports (Domestic) (*see* NOTE below). Twelve Months ended December.		
	1905.	1906.	1907.	1905.	1906.	1907.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Germany	350,501,000	394,410,000	422,707,000	281,806,000	312,652,000	337,722,000
Belgium*	116,398,000	128,339,000	137,144,000	87,706,000	102,282,000	106,881,000
France...	191,156,000	225,090,000	241,906,000	194,675,000	210,668,000	221,681,000
Switzerland	53,596,000	56,870,000	62,148,000	38,390,000	42,409,000	45,599,000
Austria-Hungary ...	89,422,000	93,741,000	97,662,000	93,491,000	96,371,000	97,118,000
Egypt	22,125,000	24,636,000	26,801,000	20,890,000	25,525,000	28,742,000
United States... ...	245,655,000	275,105,000	296,519,000	333,213,000	369,316,000	394,859,000
Japan	49,783,000	42,653,000	50,342,000	32,492,000	42,792,000	43,743,000
British India... ...	72,691,000	78,123,000	86,125,000	102,764,000	111,447,000	123,036,000
Canada	53,932,000	64,040,000	75,191,000	43,332,000	49,076,000	48,926,000
British S. Africa+ ...	not available	31,639,000	27,483,000	not available	42,396,000	47,596,000
United Kingdom ...	487,240,000	522,786,000	553,932,000	329,817,000	375,575,000	426,205,000

* Value of *principal* articles only. + Including bullion.

A comparison of the total figures for the month ended 31st January is possible for four countries, as follows, viz.:—

—	Imports (*see* NOTE). One Month ended January.			Exports (Domestic) (*see* NOTE). One Month ended January.		
	1906.	1907.	1908.	1906.	1907.	1908.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Belgium*	10,469,000	11,615,000	9,976,000	6,403,000	6,963,000	6,406,000
France...	19,458,000	17,651,000	19,943,000	14,457,000	14,798,000	12,727,000
United States ...	22,192,000	26,372,000	17,854,000	35,083,000	39,048,000	42,527,000
United Kingdom ...	46,028,000	51,742,000	49,769,000	30,775,000	35,071,000	34,408,000

* Value of *principal* articles only.

NOTE.—In the case of Germany, Belgium, France, Switzerland, Austria-Hungary, Egypt, Japan, Canada *and United Kingdom*, the import figures given in the above summaries represent imports for home consumption. In all cases the export figures are intended to represent exports of domestic produce. In most cases, however, they include a certain amount of "nationalised" goods, *i.e.*, goods originally imported for consumption, and which, if dutiable, have been charged with duty, but which are subsequently re-exported.

Trade of Foreign Countries and British Possessions.

The latest figures available as regards other countries from which returns are received by the Board of Trade are as follow:—

—	Imports.			Exports (Domestic).		
	1905.	1906.	1907.	1905.	1906.	1907.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Russia* (10 months)..	49,401,000	53,228,000	59,081,000	92,103,000	89,254,000	91,438,000
Spain (11 months) ...	38,437,000	36,708,000	33,922,000	33,659,000	32,121,000	32,813,000
Italy (11 months) ...	72,836,000	90,336,000	100,800,000	60,663,000	68,903,000	67,577,000
Mexico† (11 months).	15,886,000	22,505,000	23,292,000	21,557,000	24,032,000	24,506,000
Australian Commonwealth† (11 months)	not available	40,773,000	46,777,000	not available	56,735,000	62,229,000
	1904.	*1905.*	*1906.*	*1904.*	*1905.*	*1906.*
Portugal (12 months)	13,960,000	13,653,000	13,588,000	6,910,000	6,518,000	6,883,000

* European, Russo-Finnish and Black Sea Frontiers.

† Including bullion and specie.

For detailed particulars regarding the trade of the several countries, reference should be made to the "Accounts relating to the Trade and Commerce of certain Foreign Countries and British Possessions, including figures received up to 29th February," to be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.

FOREIGN TRADE OF INDIA IN 1907.

The Board of Trade have received from the India Office the following statement showing the value of Indian (Foreign* Sea-borne) Import and Export Trade (not including Government transactions) for the calendar year 1907. The figures for 1906 are added for purposes of comparison:—

* The coasting trade between Indian seaports is not included in this statement, nor is the trade across the land frontier of India.

Foreign Trade of India in 1907.

Imports.

	1906.	1907.
	£	£
I. Live animals, food and drink, and narcotics—		
(*a*) Live animals	299,076	294,910
(*b*) Food and drink...	11,395 050	10,811,144
(*c*) Narcotics (opium and tobacco)	433,386	532,489
Total, Class I.	12,127,512	11,638,543
II. Raw materials—		
(*a*) Textile (including twist and yarn)	3,017,008	3,159,089
(*b*) Metals	466,417	560,661
(*c*) Other (including chemicals and drugs) ...	3,090,095	3,219,737
Total, Class II.	6,573,520	6,939,487
III. Manufactured articles—		
(*a*) Textile	29,504,215	32,959,876
(*b*) Metals (including hardware and cutlery) ...	7,687,126	9,506,224
(*c*) Other (including machinery, railway material, dyes and oils)	16,107,744	20,525,632
Total, Class III.	53,299,085	62,991,732
IV. Coin and bullion—		
(*a*) Gold	11,743,028	13,406,849
(*b*) Silver	5,665,037	7,174,840
Total, Class IV.	17,408,065	20,581,689
Total imports	89,408,182	102,151,451

Exports (including Re-exports of Foreign Goods).

	1906.	1907.
	£	£
I. Live animals, food and drink, and narcotics—		
(*a*) Live animals	144,707	150,469
(*b*) Food and drink...	26,253.680	30,467,146
(*c*) Narcotics (opium and tobacco)	6,331,368	6,032,118
Total, Class I.	32,729,755	36,649,733
II. Raw materials—		
(*a*) Textile	32,658,609	35,861,822
(*b*) Metals	694,533	845,585
(*c*) Other (including chemicals and drugs) ...	19,743,447	21,845,810
Total, Class II.	53,096,589	58,553,217
III. Manufactured articles—		
(*a*) Textile (including twist and yarn)	20,016,371	21,238.931
(*b*) Metals (including hardware and cutlery) ..	161,918	187,655
(*c*) Other (including machinery, railway material, dyes and oils)	7,760,132	8,835,588
Total, Class III.	27,938.421	30,262,174
IV. Coin and bullion—		
(*a*) Gold	3,595 061	2,172,915
(*b*) Silver	1,422,960	1,205,239
Total, Class IV.	5,018,021	3,378,154
Total exports ...	118,782,786	128,843.278

N.B.—Rupees have been converted into sterling at Rs. 15 per £, the rate at which the pound sterling is legal tender in India under the Indian Coinage Act of 1899.

TRADE OF THE AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH IN 1907.

The Board of Trade Correspondent at Adelaide (Mr. J. Cresswell) has forwarded an extract from the Adelaide "Advertiser" of 4th February, containing details of the value of the trade of the Commonwealth during 1907, as compared with that of the previous year.

The total value of the imports and exports was as follows:—

	1906.	1907.
	£	£
Imports	44,788,556	51,898,380
Exports	69,798,989	72,903,647
Total trade	114,587,545	124,802,027

The following table shows the values of the imports for the two years under the principal headings:—

	1906.	1907.
	£	£
Apparel and soft goods	10,873,272	12,582,557
Boots and shoes	334,019	360,386
Cement	72,555	50,933
Earthen and chinaware	244,662	338,482
Fish	405,587	405,962
Currants	75,332	78,857
Hops	63,526	49,173
Iron and steel galvanized plate, &c.	1,112,557	1,353,709
Iron and steel bars, &c.	805,065	1,089,854
Iron, pig, &c.	202,232	231,328
Jute goods	1,332,293	1,373,667
Leather	375,946	363,975
Agricultural implements	274,908	409,502
Other machinery	2,024,140	2,754,596
Manures	427,789	389,169
Metals, manufactures of	3,198,812	3,929,828
Kerosine	396,832	499,471
Paints, &c.	362,168	445,437
Brandy	155,505	148,065
Whisky	528,001	579,781
Sugar	423,665	77,722
Tea	884,191	1,153,322
Timber	1,331,427	1,606,290
Tinplates	248,984	248,779
Tobacco, manufactured	144,245	166,449
Tobacco, unmanufactured	295,599	426,355
Cigars and cigarettes	181,374	159,948
Wine	109,006	119,097

Trade of the Australian Commonwealth in 1907.

The values of some of the principal exports were as follow :—

—	1906.	1907.
	£	£
Butter	3,240,575	2,890,531
Wheat	4,913,800	4,802,723
Flour	1,216,870	1,296,348
Wool	22,669,813	28,891,830
Copper	2,948,246	3,457,226
Mutton and lamb, frozen	1,084,167	1,377,502
Hides and skins	2,717,944	2,823,376
Tallow	878,764	1,017,198
Tin	1,229,347	1,122,474

POSSIBILITIES OF PAPER PULP MANUFACTURE FROM CAPE FIBRES.

The Cape of Good Hope "Agricultural Journal" for February publishes reports on Cape fibres and their possibilities for paper making, prepared in connection with the samples exhibited at the last South African Products Exhibition in London, from which the following particulars are extracted :—

A sample of Matjesgoed fibre was readily converted into paper pulp on being treated with caustic soda under suitable conditions. The amount of pulp obtained was 35 per cent. of the raw material. The unbleached pulp is fairly strong, and could be used for some grades of paper; it would be worth about 6*l.* to 7*l.* per ton if found suitable for wrapping paper. When bleached and further treated, the pulp is much weaker, and apparently not very suitable for the manufacture of white paper.

A sample of Palmiet fibre broke readily when handled, and did not appear to be of much use, but it evidently did not fairly represent the normal condition of the plant, as the ordinary Palmiet leaf is very tough and strong. This material, when boiled with caustic soda under pressure in the usual way, gave an unsatisfactory pulp, in consequence of the conditions of treatment, but the experiment could not be repeated owing to lack of further samples. The percentage of the paper-making fibre was 42 per cent., and the pulp obtained was tough, in spite of the fibres being short. It would be worth about 6*l.* to 7*l.* per ton, and could be used if blended with a small proportion of a long-fibred pulp.

A specimen of Papkuil fibre was readily converted into pulp on being treated with caustic soda, the amount obtained being about 30 per cent. If the moist stems of the plant are omitted, the yield is considerably higher. The pulp is of a good colour, and fairly tough, and could be used for the manufacture of paper, although

bleaching reduces the strength. The value would be 6*l.* to 7*l.* per ton.

It is suggested that a small plant for the treatment of 8 to 12 tons per week would provide the opportunity of making practical investigations with many varieties of fibre, and supply the paper-maker with quantities large enough for him to determine the commercial value of each. The pulp could be made into convenient bales and shipped to England for trial. The cost of working an experimental plant of this character is, of course, no criterion of the cost of manufacture on a large scale. An expert practical pulp maker, assisted by four or five unskilled labourers, could carry on all the necessary operations.

There are, continues the "Agricultural Journal," many points to be considered on the subject of a paper trade industry for South Africa. The question of the suitability of the various fibres must be settled by laboratory investigations and by the manufacture of sample sheets of paper by a qualified expert. The supply of fibrous material must be abundant and fairly permanent, since the output of a paper mill likely to secure sufficient results would be 100 to 150 tons per week. The utilisation of native products exclusively for paper manufacture would demand a serious enquiry into sources of supply. Further, the necessity of importing caustic soda, alum, size, and other chemicals, together with the price of labour and the initial outlay for a factory, would have to be taken into account when considering the question of erecting paper mills. The question of paper pulp for export to countries where paper is made is at present, in the opinion of the "Agricultural Journal," a much more likely proposition, and should it be found possible to manufacture pulp from certain selected suitable fibres on a large and profitable scale, the question of the paper industry would assume a more practical and commercial form.

MINERAL RESOURCES OF NEWFOUNDLAND.

The Board of Trade have received from the Minister of Mines in Newfoundland a copy of the "Newfoundland Illustrated Tribune" containing an article on the mineral resources of the Colony, from which the following is taken:—

The mineral deposits at present being worked are situated along the sea coast. The vast interior of the island, containing from 4,000 to 5,000 square miles of mineral bearing formation, is practically untouched. This formation is of the serpentine character, and belongs to the Quebec group of the lower Silurian, or to the middle Lauzon division. This formation is admitted to be the metalliferous zone of North America. In Newfoundland this formation is rich in copper ore, the ore usually carrying silver

gold and nickel. The area of this formation, according to the most accurate estimates, is about 5,000 square miles. In the north-east district of the island the Lauzon division is developed, and it is in this formation the Tilt Cove and other northern copper ore deposits are found. The natural trend of the rivers, lakes, and bays, as well as the mountain ranges, is north-east south-west. The island has three well defined mineral zones, which extend from the north-east coast to the south-west coast.

Iron Pyrites.—Iron pyrites has been mined at Pilley's Island for the past 15 years, and the supply is yet visible for years. The ore gives 54 per cent. sulphur, and is superior to Spanish pyrites. The annual output is 40,000 tons. The entire output is shipped to New York.

Iron Ore.—In 1895 the Wabana iron ore (hematite) mine was opened at Bell Island, about 12 miles from St. John's City. This deposit is one of the most striking in the world. The ore lies in two parallel beds, dipping about nine degrees in a northerly direction. The strike is about 40 degrees east-south, 40 degrees west. From the outcrop down, a distance of 1,500 feet in the direction of the dip, the covering is soil from 1½ feet to 8 feet thick. This section of the deposit has been mined and shipped at a very low price, the actual figures being 39 cents f.o.b. Wabana, all charges included, the cost of ore laid down at the Dominion Iron & Steel Company's docks in Sydney, C.B., being 70 cents per ton. The ore near the outcrops is worked by open cuts; the ore further down the incline is worked by slopes. The daily output from slopes and open cut is 7,500 tons. Of this tonnage, the Dominion Iron & Steel Company mine 5,000 tons, and the Nova Scotia Steel & Coal Company 2,500 tons.

The land deposit is about three miles in length and has an average width of three-eighths of a mile. The upper bed is from 7 to 9 feet thick and contains about 20,000,000 tons. It gives about 54 per cent. metallic iron. The lower bed runs from 9 to 17 feet in thickness; it is of far greater extent than the upper bed, and contains about 40,000,000 tons. Its general analysis gives 52 per cent. of metallic iron. There are two other deposits on the east containing about 1,000,000 tons, and one on the extreme west of the island, the probable estimate of which is between two and three million tons.

On the main land north from Wabana, and distant about 18 miles, a large deposit of iron ore has been uncovered; seams from 6 feet to 8 feet thick have been found, but the extent of these seams has not yet been accurately defined. The area over which the ore extends is about nine square miles, so a very conservative estimate of the ore in this section would be at from 30 to 40 million tons. The ore runs about 62 per cent., or it may be classed as a magnetite.

TRADE OF SEISTAN AND KAIN (PERSIA).

The following information relating to the trade of the Persian Provinces of Seistan and Kain has been received from H.M. Consul there (Major R. L. Kennion) :—

The British Indian trade of Seistan is in the hands of a small colony of Indian traders, who have their shops, about a dozen in number, in the Nasratabad bazaar, and who import goods by the Nushki route.

Birjand, the capital of Kain, is an important trading centre, this fact being chiefly due to its geographical position. Old established trade exists between this town and the capitals of the neighbouring Persian Provinces, and caravans from the Kainat journey to places as far distant as Tehran and Ispahan, to the Persian Gulf ports, and to Herat and other towns of Afghanistan. No British or British Indian subjects are engaged in the trade with the Kainat, all the trade with the United Kingdom and India being in the hands of Birjand merchants, who send caravans with local produce to the Persian Gulf ports and the trade marts in the interior. The caravans return with foreign goods or Persian goods of the kind required.

The trade of the United Kingdom and India with Seistan and Kain is chiefly in the following commodities, the figures given referring to the year ended 19th February, 1907 :—

Cotton piece-goods and yarns — the demand for these has remained steady, and the value of the imports was 8,500*l.*; **tea**—the imports showed a slight decline, the value being 2,200*l.*; **indigo**—the demand remains steady, and the value of the imports was 8,000*l.*; **spices**—the demand remains steady, the value of the imports being 1,700*l.*; **sugar**—the imports from the Gulf ports have increased, the greater part coming from Marseilles. Persians will use only loaf sugar when drinking tea; **leather goods**—these show a decline, due probably to Russian competition; **kerosene oil**—this was imported from Russia to the value of 1,000*l.*, and from India and the Gulf ports to the value of 150*l.* It would be imported more from India if packed in iron drums, like the Russian oil; **iron and steel**—the imports from Russia have increased, while those from India have declined; **wool**—the exports (value 5,000*l.*, of which Russia took 3,000*l.* worth) have increased considerably; **carpets**—these were exported from Kain to Khorasan to the value of 18,000*l.*; **saffron**—the value of the exports to India and the Gulf ports was 2,500*l.*; **hides and skins**, chiefly sheep and goat skins—these were exported to India and the Gulf ports to the value of 400*l.*, and to Russia to the value of 350*l.*

It should be noted that Persia is a country of wide area and scanty population. In the part of Persia under review, British and Indian goods always command prices which afford an ample margin of profit. There is not, however, sufficient demand for any one class of goods to make it worth the manufacturer's while to send agents, but general agents are required.

Trade of Seistan and Kain (Persia).

The Consul quotes from the Manager of the Seistan Branch of the Imperial Bank of Persia, who says:—"If trade in Persia is ever to be a success, it must be ventured upon by people who have been brought up in business and who can afford to wait for a year or so before seeing large returns for their labours. They must come prepared to stay, and gradually extend their business up as far as Birjand, and from there to Turbat-i Haidari, and so on to Nishapur, Sabzawar and Shahrud. These are all important centres, doing their buying in Birjand and Meshed. It is a known fact that some Indian goods imported *viâ* the Nushki route to Meshed actually find their way back to Birjand, and from there to the other towns mentioned."

With regard to foreign competition the Consul states that Russian trade made steady progress during the year 1906-7. In Seistan its success is due to the operations of the Russian Bank, which are pushed in a methodical and very energetic manner. They appoint agents in all the large villages, and these agents are supplied with goods from the Nasratabad office on payment of a deposit, or more often on a bond executed by two guarantors known to the Bank, and they have, it is stated, to bind themselves not to obtain goods elsewhere. The whole output of the carpet looms of the Kainat, in value not less than 20,000*l.* annually, is exported *viâ* Russia to Constantinople, whence the carpets are re-exported to America, and Europe, many of them doubtless to the United Kingdom. British and Indian carpet dealers, should, says the Consul, turn their eyes to this source of supply. (See pp. 592-3 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 19th March for an article dealing with the carpet trade of Kain.)

PROPOSED TARIFF CHANGES.

JAPAN.

Proposed Modification of Duty on Crude Mineral Oil.

H.M. Commercial Attaché at Yokohama reports that a Government Bill has been laid before the Japanese Diet proposing to increase the duty on *crude* mineral oils imported into Japan. The Bill has been referred to a committee, who have recommended that the duties should be modified as follows :—

	Proposed New Duty. Yen.*
Crude mineral oil yielding on distillation at 120° C to 275° C—	
Under 20 per cent. of refined oil (10 American gallons)*	0·17
From 20 per cent. to 35 per cent. of refined oil ... ...(10 American gallons)	0·29
From 35 per cent. to 45 per cent. of refined oil ... ...(10 American gallons)	0·36
And for every 1 per cent. over 45 per cent. (10 American gallons)	0·01

At present crude mineral oil, not distilled, pays duty under No. 176 of the Tariff at the rate of 20 per cent. *ad valorem.*

TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

Free Importation of certain "Minor Articles" and Tools.

With reference to the notice which appeared in the "Board of Trade Journal" for 12th March last respecting the free importation of "minor articles," machine tools, and tools of trade under certain Customs Bye-laws into the Australian Commonwealth, the Board of Trade have now received, from the Representative of the Commonwealth in London, the following list of articles which have been added to the Customs Bye-laws and, thereby, entitled to be admitted free of duty on importation into the Commonwealth :—

*American gallon = 0·83 imperial gallon ; yen = 2*s.* 0½*d.*

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—*continued.*

Minor Articles.

For *ball mills:*
Die rings, sometimes called "lining plates."
For *incandescent mantles:*
Tubular fabric imported in the piece.
For *lasts:*
Last hinges and links.
For *golf clubs:*
Heads and shafts (hickory).

Machine Tools.

Machines—slate, stone and marble, chiselling and planing.
Lathes, for working, turning and polishing marble, granite or other stone.
Wheel shrinkers.

Note.—Grinders for sharpening sheep-shearing cutters have been removed from the free list of "machine tools."

Tools of Trade.

Blacksmiths' rounders (top and bottom swage).
Anvils.
Sailmakers' palms.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Regulations respecting the Exportation of Maize.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Colonial Office, copy of a Government Notice (No. 145 of 1908), issued for general information under Section 6 of the Ordinance No. 60 of 1903, by the High Commissioner on 7th February last, and laying down the Regulations to be observed—with effect from 1st February, 1908—in order to encourage and facilitate the exportation of "maize" oversea beyond South Africa from Stations on the Central South African Railways.

The Regulations provide, *inter alia,* that all maize for export, whether—

(1) Handed to the Administrator for its disposal through its Agents in London, or

(2) for disposal otherwise than through the Government Agent, but the Government undertaking the duties of Shipping Agent at the port of shipment (except Natal),

will be graded by the Government Exporting Officer at the port of shipment, and maize not coming up to the standard will be Government marked (below grade). Consignments showing the slightest sign of weevil, either wholly or in part, will not be accepted for conveyance, and if found to be in a weevily condition

SOUTH AFRICA—*continued.*

before shipment will not be exported, but, if necessary, sold without waiting the senders' instructions.

In the case of maize for export over sea, *through private agents* at the respective ports, it is provided that all such maize must pass through the Government grader, otherwise full ordinary rates, as given in the South African Railways Current Tariff Book, will apply. If found to be weevily, the maize will be detained pending the senders' instructions, and the export rate will be increased to the ordinary "maize rate" before parting with the maize, or if sold by the Administrator, the higher rate will be deducted from the proceeds of the sale.

The Regulations, which contain grading, wharfage, and storage charges, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

NATAL.

Warning to Commercial Travellers regarding Removal of Samples without Proper Entry.

The "Natal Government Gazette" for 18th February last contains a Customs notice, issued by the Collector of Customs, Durban, on 12th February, 1908, stating that commercial travellers and others representing English, Natal and foreign firms have been in the habit, for some time past, of returning to Natal with their samples without having procured in the last Colony in which they were travelling the Customs Union forms pertaining to that Colony. Before these travellers have departed on their outward journey, owing to the fact that the sample baggage would be refused by the station-masters at Durban and Maritzburg, the outward Customs Union forms have been filled up and handed in. The negligent omission, by the travellers, to obtain the return Customs Union forms has involved the Colony in serious loss—the sums paid over on the original outward documents having been paid away, and consequent on the omission to obtain and hand in the inward documents, not returned to Natal.

The omission in question is a breach of the Customs Union Convention and Regulations, and renders the traveller and firm liable to a penalty equal to treble the duty paid value of the goods or 100*l.*, whichever may be sued for.

It is stated in the notice that any offender or offending firm will, in future, be prosecuted. Travellers should obtain a supply of the Customs Union Forms pertaining to the colony in which they may be travelling.

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

New Customs Management Ordinance.

The "Southern Nigeria Gazette" for 19th February last contains the full text of the "Customs Ordinance, 1908" (No. 2 of 1908), which was assented to by the Governor of the Colony of Southern Nigeria on 30th January, 1908.

The present Ordinance, which extends to the Colony and Protectorate of Southern Nigeria, repeals, with effect from 1st March, 1908, previous Customs Laws,* and, at the same time, makes provision for the management and regulation of the Customs and Trade of Southern Nigeria.

The Ordinance lays down the regulations to be observed respecting the—

(1) Appointment of officers, ports, warehouses, &c.
(2) Importation and warehousing of goods.
(3) Exportation of goods.
(4) Coasting trade.
(5) Payments of and receipts for duties.
(6) Bonds and other securities.
(7) False declarations.
(8) Permits.
(9) Smuggling.
(10) Legal proceedings and miscellaneous matters.

The Ordinance also gives, in considerable detail, the rules prescribing the fees payable to Custom officers, the port limits, boarding stations, warehouse rents, and various Customs forms of entry, and it may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

* The Customs Ordinance, 1876, Niger Coast Customs Ordinance, 1894, as extended to the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria by the Ordinance Extension Proclamation, 1900, together with various amendments and Orders made thereunder; the Exportation of Arms Proclamation, 1901; and the Customs Proclamation, 1905.

SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE.

Consolidated Customs Tariff.

The Board of Trade have received a copy of the "Customs Amendment Ordinance" (No. 4 of 1907), dated 17th June last, which repeals various Customs Regulations*, and at the same time consolidates and amends the Tariff of import and export duties leviable at Zeyla and other ports of the Somaliland Protectorate.

* The Customs Regulations of 1901, Regulations of 1902 (so far as relates to duties and certain fees under Article 11, and Schedules I., III. and IV.), the Customs Amendment Regulation No. 9 of 1904, and the Customs Amendment Regulations of 1905.

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE—*continued.*

The rates of duty are the same as those previously in force, except that certain articles have been added to the free list of both the import and export Tariffs.

The complete Customs Tariff of import and export duties leviable at Zeyla and all other Protectorate ports is shown below for the purposes of reference :—

Articles.	Rates of Duty leviable at	
	Zeyla.	All other Somaliland Protectorate Ports.
IMPORTS.		
Goods imported by the Government ; personal baggage; ice; coal; maps, and printed matter ; specie ; trees, plants, and seeds for cultivation ; live stock for breeding purposes ; tombstones and ornaments for graves ; military equipment of an officer, including a sword, revolver, rifle of a pattern sanctioned by the War Office; officers' certified chargers ; surgical and medical instruments personally imported by a doctor, and surveying instruments personally imported by an engineer or surveyor for professional use ; arms and ammunition to the extent permitted by the "Firearms Regulations, No. 2 of 1905,"‡ guns and rifles temporarily imported under a guarantee by sportsmen, prospectors, and travellers ; machinery, watches and other articles exported under a Customs pass-note and re-imported after repairs, &c.	Free	Free
Goods consigned to British Legation and Consulates in Abyssinia	Free	Free
Alcoholic liquors (as provided by Articles 1 and 2 of the "Alcoholic Liquor Regulations 1901," or by any amending enactment) Per gall. at 50° C. [The duty is to be augmented proportionally for each degree above 50° and diminished proportionally for each degree below 50°.]	2 rupees†	2 rupees
Live stock of every description ...*ad val.*	5 %	7 %
Silk goods and mixtures of the same, velvet, and tanned skins ... ...*ad val.*	1 %	7 %
Grey shirtings, European white long-cloth and drill, Turkey red cloth, and miscellaneous piece goods, including twist, dyed, and woollen goods ... ...*ad val.*	2 %	7 %
Earthen and glassware ... ... ,,	3 %	7 %
Other miscellaneous articles, viz., grain, sugar, ironware, metalware, zinc, lead, provisions, &c. ... ...*ad val.*	5 %†	7 %

† Wines, malt and alcoholic liquors for Harrar, 2 per cent. *ad valorem.*

‡ These regulations provide that all firearms and ammunition introduced into the Protectorate at any port shall be deposited at the cost, risk and peril of the owner in a public warehouse, and they can only be withdrawn in accordance with a permit given in writing by a Sub-Commissioner or District Officer.

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

SOMALILAND PROTECTORATE—*continued.*

Articles.	Rates of Duty leviable at	
	Zeyla.	All other Somaliland Protectorate Ports.
EXPORTS.		
Personal baggage; specie; civet; empty kerosine tins and mineral water bottles; wrappings and sackings for re-import; returned stores and articles on which import duty has been already paid; cargo kept in bond and transhipped without change of ownership; machinery, watches and other articles exported for repair ...	Free	Free
Live stock—		
Horses (Somali) ... ... each	100 rupees	100 rupees
„ other breeds ... ... „	20 „	20 „
Mules ... ... „	8 „	8 „
Donkeys ... ... „	1 „	1 „
Bullocks, cows, camels and ostriches „	4 „	4 „
Sheep and goats ... ... „	4 annas	4 annas
All other animals and birds ...*ad val.*	7 %	7 %
Coffee, skins, hides, ivory, shells (mother-of-pearl), feathers, beeswax, ghee, waras, and other merchandise ... „	1 %	7 %

The Ordinance also provides that the export duties leviable at Zeyla shall also be charged on all livestock and local produce transported *by land* from Zeyla to Djibouti or other place beyond the limits of the Protectorate.

Note.—Under the Customs Regulations (No. 2 of 1902), it is provided that no Customs duties shall be levied on goods exported from one Customs port to another of the Protectorate, except that goods exported from Zeyla to another Customs port of the Protectorate shall pay an import duty equivalent to the difference between the import duty at Zeyla and that at the port of destination.

RUSSIAN FAR EAST (VLADIVOSTOK).

Requirements as to Manifests at Vladivostok—Prohibited Goods.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, copy of a despatch from H.M. Vice-Consul at Vladivostok, forwarding a copy of the following regulations affecting the importation of merchandise at that port:—

A manifest of the cargo is required to be presented, which should state clearly the contents of any package shipped for the port. Vague declarations such as "merchandise," "various goods," "apothecaries' goods," &c., will not suffice.

Most particularly a correct designation is required for those goods which are under direct control of the Customs house, viz.:—

Spirits and liqueurs, brandy, rum, &c. (wine and champagne are excluded, but all other substances containing free spirit, such as eau de Cologne, perfumes, varnish, &c., are included), beer, porter, and ale; sugar, molasses, &c.; matches; tobacco and tobacco products; kerosine, naphtha, benzine, gasoline, vaseline, &c.; mineral oil; firearms, ammunition; printed books, printing machinery; machinery; old newspapers; all kinds of explosives.

A list of passengers is also to be presented to the Customs officials, containing the number of packages of luggage carried by each passenger.

The importation of the following articles is prohibited:—Opium, playing-cards, patent medicines, pork, and all preserves, sausages, &c., containing pork.

SWEDEN.

Regulations respecting Free Port Areas.

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 416 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 30th May last respecting the establishment of free port or bonded store areas at Stockholm and Gothenburg in the year 1911, the Board of Trade have now received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of a Swedish Royal Ordinance laying down the regulations which will govern operations in the free port areas on their establishment. These regulations (in Swedish) may be consulted by persons interested at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

GREECE.

Prohibition of the Importation of Oxen and Buffaloes from Salonica.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that the importation into Greece from Salonica of oxen and buffaloes, and their hides, hair, hoofs, horns, bones and tallow, has been prohibited.

VENEZUELA.

New Tariff: Reduced Duty on certain Cotton Tissues; Increased Duties on Wheat and Wheat Flour.

With reference to the notice in the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 12th March reporting the receipt of a revised Customs Tariff for Venezuela, the British Vice-Consul at Caracas draws attention to the fact that under the new tariff the duty on the undermentioned tissues is reduced from 2·75 to 2·50 bolivars per kilog.:—*Zarazas*, percale, nainsook, *rasete*, poplin, cretonnes, calico, *carlacan*, brilliants, *malvinas*,

Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

VENEZUELA—*continued.*

Japanese cloths, lustring, and all other similar coloured tissues of cotton; fine striped cottons having more than 13 warp threads in a square of 5 millimetres, cotton merino, and coloured cotton flannel.

The new Tariff also provides for an increase of the duty on wheat from 11 to 12 centimos per kilog., and on wheat flour from 25 to 26¼ centimos per kilog.

Abolition of Surtax on Common Glass Bottles.

The Vice-Consul reports that the surcharge of 25 per cent. of the Customs duty imposed on common bottles of ordinary black or transparent glass suitable for bottling liquors, sterilised milk and aërated waters, imposed by Decree of the 14th November, 1907, was abolished by Decree of the 20th January last. The present duty on these articles is, therefore, 10 centimos per kilog.

Increase of Duty on Matches.

By a Decree of the 20th January last matches were transferred from Class IV. to Class V. of the Tariff, the duty leviable on articles in Class V. being 1·25 bolivars per kilog. Paste for making matches remains in Class IV., at 75 centimos per kilog.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Inspection of Imported Poultry.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a translation of a Decree of the President of Argentina, dated the 7th February last, providing that the Livestock Department shall inspect all poultry imported into the country, and detain under observation for such time as may be necessary birds which are suspected of being the vehicle of any disease. Birds suffering from contagious diseases or unfit for human consumption are to be destroyed. Final clearance through the Customs will only be allowed for birds in respect of which the Livestock Department have granted a sanitary certificate.

SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

RUSSIA.

Duplication of the Trans-Siberian Railway.

With reference to the notice on p. 394 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 20th February last, respecting the doubling of the Trans-Siberian Railway, H.M. Embassy at St. Petersburg reports that work has been postponed on certain sections of the line, and there only remains the Achinsk-Irkutsk section, 768 miles in length, on which work is already being carried on over a distance of about 75 miles. Credits are asked for the construction of embankments and bridges on this section estimated at 3,924,940*l.*, and it is not expected that its duplication will be completed before the end of 1911.

There is a proposal to join up the Trans-Siberian and Northern railways, and if Omsk is made the junction, the connecting line will be 345 miles long and cost about 3,368,420*l.* It should also be noted that the Council of Ministers have approved a proposal to commence the construction of the Tiumen-Omsk Railway during the present year.

No definite plan has yet been drawn up regarding the Amur Railway, but it is proposed that it shall run entirely in Russian territory, skirting the northern border of Manchuria. Assuming, as is probable, that it will start from Karymskaia, on the Trans-Siberian Railway, and finish at Khabarovsk, it will be about 1,320 miles long and will cost over 21,000,000*l.* In these circumstances the Trans-Siberian Railway will be duplicated from Omsk to Karymskaia, at a probable cost of 13,160,000*l*, which, together with the cost of construction of the Tiumen-Omsk and Amur Railways, amounts to a grand total of 37,528,420*l.* The realisation of the entire scheme is, of course, distant.

Harbour Regulations and Shipping Dues at Vladivostok.

The British Commercial Agent at Vladivostok (Mr. R. M. Hodgson) has forwarded a copy of the Harbour Regulations at present in force at that port, together with the following statement of the shipping dues levied there:—On entrance, 10 copeks per ton net register; on clearance, 10 copeks per ton net register; mooring and unmooring, 15 roubles; pilotage, not compulsory, 50 roubles each way, with supplement of 25 roubles if the ship goes to the quarantine station; wharfage, 50 roubles a week for 300 feet, with supplement of 7 roubles for every 50 feet above 300; clearance permit, 75 copeks; bill of health, 75 copeks.

Note.—100 copeks = 1 rouble = 2s. 1⅓d.

SPAIN.

Proposed Exemption from Stamp and other Taxes of Foreign Companies working Railways in Spain, on their becoming Nationalised.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of the 17th March publishes a project of law by which it is proposed that non-Spanish joint stock companies for working railways in Spain, registering themselves as national companies within three months of the promulgation of the law, shall be exempt from the imposition of stamp and other taxes (*derechos reales y timbre*).

Shipping and Transport.

TURKEY-IN-ASIA.

Progress of the Hedjaz Railway.

With reference to the notice on p. 344 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 13th February, respecting the Hedjaz Railway, H.M. Consul at Jeddah (Mr. J. H. Monahan) reports, with regard to the progress of that railway, that work is being done from Medina, as well as from the present rail-head about 100 miles from that town, and the railway is expected to be completed to Medina by next autumn. From Medina it appears to have been decided to extend the line to Mecca *viâ* Rabigh and Jeddah, a route not only free from serious engineering dificulties, but well supplied with water, whereas the eastern or highland route from Medina to Mecca lacks water. Rabigh is a small town of about 3,000 inhabitants, 3 miles from the sea and about 70 miles to the north of Jeddah.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Virginia Pilotage Bill.

H.M. Embassy at Washington reports that a Bill abolishing compulsory pilotage and altering the rates has passed both houses of the Virginia legislature. Pilotage on sailing coasters is abolished and in compensation the rates on foreign tonnage are increased as follows:—

PRESENT RATES.

	Per foot. Dols.	Bunkers. Dols.
10 feet and under	2·50 ...	1·50
13 „ over 10	3·00 ...	1·50
14 „ „ 13	3·50 ...	1·75
16 „ „ 14	4·00 ...	2·00
Over 16 feet	4·50 ...	2·25

PROPOSED RATES.

Under 8 feet	2·00 ...	1·00
8 feet and under 10	2·50 ...	1·30
10 „ „ 13	3·50 ...	2·50
13 „ „ 16	4·00 ...	3·00
16 „ „ 20	4·50 ...	3·50
20 „ over	5·00 ...	—

Shipping and Transport.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—FRANCE.

New Steamship Line between New York, Calais and Dunkirk.

H.M. Consul-General at New York (Mr. C. W. Bennett, C.I.E.) reports that a new steamship line, to be known as the French-American Line, is to be started between New York, Calais and Dunkirk. A regular monthly service is to be maintained, with additional sailings as circumstances require. The first sailing will be from Dunkirk on the 2nd May, followed by one from New York on the 21st of the same month. The service will be a freight one only, and for the present chartered tonnage will be employed, the vessels being slow, making a twelve-day trip.

The company has been inaugurated almost concurrently with the commencement of the direct service to Bordeaux and Dunkirk by the "Compagnie Générale Transatlantique," in which newly-constructed steamers will be used.

MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

CEYLON.

Thorianite.

The "Ceylon Observer" states that one of the most important finds made in connection with the Mineralogical Survey of Ceylon when it commenced work four years ago, was the discovery in the beds of some rivers and streams of thorianite. Attention was then specially given to the examination of localities in which minerals containing thorium might occur, and numerous streams were examined and results of much importance obtained. Samples were secured from the Madola and Bambara Botuwa watersheds, Balangona Diniduma Welimada, in the Uva Province, and a few other places. The mineral was prospected for by private individuals in likely localities, and in 1905 the first shipments were made from the Island. The output was considered satisfactory for a commencement, 179 cwt., valued at Rs. 74,315, being exported that year. Unfortunately, this valuable mineral is not found in large quantities and the area of distribution is also limited. Though prospecting was carried on, the quantities obtained after the first year were small, the supply apparently thinning out, and in 1906 the total exports only came to 52 cwt. of the value of Rs. 25,199. The quantity is now getting less, and 10 cwt., valued at Rs. 4,750, represented the shipment of the mineral last year.

Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

RUSSIA.

Metallurgical Industry Combine.

With reference to the notice on p. 497 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 5th March, respecting an iron industry combine in Russia, H.M. Commercial Attaché in that country (Mr. H. Cooke) reports announcements in the Russian press to the effect that the combine has been formed and the agreement signed. Among others, the following metallurgical undertakings have joined: South Russian Dnieprovienne, Russian-Belgian, Novorossisk Co., Uralsko-Volsko-Belgian, Russian Providence, and the Moscow Metallurgical Works. The capital of the combine amounts to 150 million roubles. Negotiations with other undertakings are being continued, and many of those in Poland and the northern and Baltic regions have expressed the desire to join. The consent of the Russian Government is required before the combine becomes effective.

GERMANY—MARSHALL ISLANDS.

Discovery of Phosphates in Nauen.

H.M. Ambassador at Berlin calls attention to an article published in the "Deutsche Kolonialzeitung," reporting upon a discovery of phosphates in Nauen, one of the Marshall Islands. A company has been formed to work the deposits, the depth of which, however, is not yet ascertained. The output for 1908 is estimated at 75,000 tons.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Petroleum at Commodoro Rivadavia.

With reference to the notice on p. 591 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 19th March, and to previous notices respecting petroleum at Commodoro Rivadavia, H.M. Consul at Buenos Aires (Mr. A. C. Ross, C.B.) has forwarded an extract from "La Nacion" describing the work that has already been carried out at the well. The exact position of the bore-hole is given, as well as the character and thickness of the various strata that have been pierced.

The extract may be seen by persons interested at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

YARNS AND TEXTILES.

BRITISH INDIA.

Cotton Spinning and Weaving Returns.

The Board of Trade have received a copy of the monthly return issued by the Indian Government, showing the quantity of cotton yarn spun, and of cotton woven goods produced, in each Province in British India, and in the Native States, during the nine months, April to December, of each of the years 1905, 1906, and 1907.

The following is a summarised statement extracted from the above return, giving particulars for the nine months, ended December, 1905, 1906, and 1907 :—

		Nine months ended December.		
		1905.	1906.	1907.
BRITISH INDIA, BERAR, AND NATIVE STATES.				
Cotton yarn spun	Lbs.	512,852,861	500,199,401	479,566,431
Grey and bleached piece goods	"	104,045,775	104,505,262	118,525,148
	Yards	437,845,906	460,624,921	518,111,480
Coloured piece goods ...	Lbs.	Lbs.	21,578,475*	24,831,631*
	Yards	23,284,668	87,676,543	102,344,636
Grey and coloured goods (other than piece goods)	Lbs.		1,104,988	1,442,745
Hosiery	"	595,880	667,391	616,456
Miscellaneous goods ...	"	916,528	238,770	155,653

* The quantities of "coloured piece goods" and of "grey and coloured goods (other than piece goods)" produced in the *Native States*, not being separately stated, the total amounts are included in the figures given for "coloured piece goods."

RUSSIA—POLAND.

Combine of Cotton Spinning Firms at Lodz.

H.M. Embassy at St. Petersburg reports that four of the largest cotton-spinning firms at Lodz in Poland, *i.e.*, those of Scheibler, Pozanski, Grohmann and Heinzely, and Kunitzer, are reported to have formed a joint company with a capital of 30,000,000 roubles (over 3,000,000*l.*).

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Textile Industry.

The British Commercial Agent in the United States (Mr. E. Seymour Bell) reports that the feature of the cotton goods trade in that country in 1907 was the continued increase in the manufacture of goods of superior quality and high price. The sale of fine fancy cotton goods has progressed rapidly. The demand has been good, and British manufacturers would do well to pay particular attention

Yarns and Textiles.

to the requirements of Americans if they wish to retain the trade they are at present doing.

Worsted fabrics were in more request in 1907 than woollens, and the present indications point to a continued preference for the former.

Many varieties of attractive textiles have been produced by the domestic mills, and they are approximating more nearly to the quality of imported goods than ever before. Those British manufacturers, therefore, who are in a position to offer attractive novelties will have the best chance of increasing their trade.

It must be remembered that, owing to the fact that people have been willing to pay more for their goods during the past few years, the manufacturers in the country have been encouraged to spend more on improving their works and producing novelties. Goods of all description are now being finished better than ever before and both mechanical and artistic improvements have become evident.

As regards dress goods, worsted fabrics were more in favour than woollen, as the fashion was for light-weight materials. The demand for these is likely to continue during the present year.

AGRICULTURE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Corn Prices.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 21st March, 1908, were as follows:—

Wheat	31*s.* 7*d.*
Barley	26*s.* 2*d.*
Oats	17*s.* 11*d.*

For further particulars see p. 649.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

A statement is published on p. 650, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 21st March, 1908, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1907.

BRITISH INDIA.

Egyptian Cotton in Sind.

The "Indian Trade Journal" of 27th February contains the following particulars respecting the 1907 crop of Egyptian cotton in Sind, by Mr. G. S. Henderson, Second Deputy Director of Agriculture in the Bombay Presidency:—

During the season of 1907 the area sown with Egyptian cotton was 6,335 acres. An area of about 2,000 acres was sown with

Agriculture.

Abassi seed obtained from the 1906 crop ginned in Sind. The remaining area was sown with Mit-Afifi seed imported from Egypt.

In the early part of the season practically no boll-worm appeared on the Egyptian cotton, but a considerable amount was found on Sindhi cotton grown in the same district. The cultivation is in most cases very poor, many cultivators broadcast the seed on the flat after one ploughing and pay no attention to thinning or weeding. In nearly all cases, too, the irrigation has been excessive, which is a certain means of lowering the grade of the staple. The results of this over-irrigation may be seen on the growing crop, viz., large masses of foliage developed at the expense of bolls and the ground covered with weeds. In some individual cases, however, the crop looks well. There seems to be no reason why, with proper cultivation and rotation, returns of 1,000 to 1,500 lb. of seed cotton per acre should not be obtained on land free from alkali.

The following is an approximate estimate of the 1907 crop, provided the boll-worm does not increase to any large extent:—

		Maunds.
1,835 acres	failure sown on alkali land ...	1,500
3,000 „	fair	7,000
1,500 „	good...	15,500
	Total	24,000

The value should average Rs. 11 per maund of seed cotton. It is improbable that better results will be obtained in the near future, unless this cultivation attracts European planters. The Sindhi cultivators do not care for the increased trouble caused by the crop, and much prefer the cultivation of indigenous cotton or of food-grains.

Rupee = 1*s.* 4*d.*; Bombay maund = 28 lb. avoirdupois.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Crown Lands for Rubber Cultivation.

Referring to the notice on pp. 499-500 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 5th March respecting Crown Lands for rubber cultivation in British Guiana, the following announcement on the subject has been received from the Crown Agents for the Colonies:—

The Government of the Colony of British Guiana will receive and consider applications for tracts of Crown Land within the Colony for rubber cultivation for areas of any size, under leases for 99 years, free for 10 years, with the right of purchasing the land after that period at 16*s.* 8*d.* per acre, or to rent, from the tenth to the fifteenth year at 10*d.* per acre, and afterwards at 2*s.* 1*d.* per acre per annum.

Agriculture.

Land is available on all the large rivers and tributary streams, and within easy communication of Georgetown, the chief city of the Colony.

The mean total yearly rainfall in the districts most suitable for rubber cultivation is 96·57 inches, the maximum monthly record is 12·33 inches, and the minimum 4·18 inches.

All applications must be addressed to the Commissioner of Lands and Mines, Georgetown, British Guiana, and full particulars as to conditions of leases, &c., can be obtained on application to the Crown Agents for the Colonies, Whitehall Gardens, London, S.W.; the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, S.W.; the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.; or direct to the Commissioner of Lands and Mines, British Guiana.

GERMAN NEW GUINEA.

Investigation of the Possibilities of Rubber Cultivation.

H.M. Ambassador at Berlin reports that the German Colonial Society, with the assistance of the Imperial Government, and in conjunction with those interested in industries in which rubber is used, have promoted an expedition to proceed to New Guinea in order to investigate the possibilities which that island may offer for the cultivation of gutta percha. The objects of the expedition will be to introduce a system for the collection of gutta percha and rubber in New Guinea, for use for deep-sea cables, and to obtain the labour of the native population for the collection of this article. The expedition will start from Bongu and proceed between the Oertzen and Finisterre ranges to the valley of the Upper Ramu. Later, the north-western slopes of the Bismarck range will be prospected for rubber, and finally an excursion will be made in a south-easterly direction as far as the Huon Gulf.

FRANCE—NEW CALEDONIA.

Cotton Cultivation.

The Acting British Consul at Noumea has forwarded a copy of the statutes of the "Union Cotonnière Calédonienne," a society established at Bourail for the encouragement of cotton cultivation in New Caledonia. It appears that experiments that have already been conducted in this industry have given promising results. New Caledonian agriculturists are, however, not counting so much on the culture of the herbaceous varieties as on that of certain kinds of tree cotton plants that have long been acclimatised there. One of these latter came from Peru, and a sample of the staple has been well reported upon by experts to whom it has been submitted. It is believed that under proper conditions tree cotton can be produced which will fetch three francs a kilogramme at Havre.

Agriculture.

FRANCE—CORSICA.

Possibilities of Cotton Cultivation.

The "Dépêche Coloniale" of 7th March publishes an article on the possibilities of cotton cultivation in Corsica, in which it is stated that a cotton-growing experiment was made at Capanelli last year, the commercial value of the unginned cotton produced being estimated at 1·40 franc per kilogramme. The conclusion drawn is that cotton can be cultivated successfully in Corsica, even under rather unfavourable climatic conditions, provided the variety chosen for cultivation is adapted to the climate.

JAPAN.

Barley Crop: Correction.

Adverting to the notice published on p. 92 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 9th January giving particulars of the barley crop of Japan for 1907, H.M. Commercial Attaché at Yokohama (Mr. E. F. Crowe) now reports that on enquiry at the Section of Statistics in the Japanese Department of Agriculture and Commerce, he was informed that what is officially known as the "barley" crop includes barley, naked barley and wheat.

MISCELLANEOUS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Cotton Statistics.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 19th March, 1908, was 94,747 (including 206 bales British West Indian and 26 bales British West African), and the number imported during the twelve weeks ended the 19th March was 1,576,515 (including 2,826 bales British West Indian and 1,033 bales British West African). As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 19th March, 1908, 13,429 bales, and for the twelve weeks, 136,219 bales.

For further details see p. 649.

RUSSIA.

Emigration.

H.M. Embassy at St. Petersburg reports that 82,000 Russian emigrants to America are reported to have left Bremen between January of last year and February of the current year. An extraordinarily increased number of labourers are leaving Riga and Windau for Denmark, and a special service of steamers is to be

Miscellaneous.

RUSSIA—*continued.*

started for their use. Between the 1st and the 31st January, 1908, 714 families of emigrants, numbering 4,000 persons, passed Cheliabinsk on their way to Siberia, whilst 177 families, numbering 804 persons, returned from Siberia during that period.

Italian Government Contract for Russian Firm.

H.M. Embassy also refers to a report that the Russo-Baltic Factory at Riga has obtained an order from the Italian Government to build 240 passenger railway coaches.

FRANCE.

International Sugar and Alcoholic Industries Congress.

The Foreign Office have been notified by the French Ambassador in London that the second International Sugar and Alcoholic Industries Congress will be held in Paris from the 6th to 10th April next.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Grading of Grain and Inspection for Export.

H.M. Embassy at Washington has forwarded a copy of the Bill now before Congress "to provide for the inspection and grading of grain entering into interstate commerce, and to secure uniformity in standards and classification of grain, and for other purposes," together with a copy of a document presented to the Senate on the subject, containing a review of the whole question relating to grain grading and inspection and foreign commerce in grains.

The above-mentioned documents may be inspected by persons interested at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

Proposed Patent Law Reform.

H.M. Embassy also reports that a Bill, similar to that recently passed in the United Kingdom, reforming the patent law, is expected to be passed in the United States. Its principal clause is as follows:—

"Any person who has invented or discovered any new and useful art, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvements thereof, not known or used by others in this country before his invention or discovery thereof, and not patented or described in any printed publication in this or any foreign country before his invention or discovery thereof, for more than two years prior to his application, and not in public use or on sale in this country for more than two years prior to his application,

Miscellaneous.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

unless the same is proved to have been abandoned, may, upon payment of the fees required by law and other due proceedings, obtain a patent therefor: Provided that any patent issued to a citizen or subject of a foreign country shall be upon the same conditions and for the same term as are patents issued by such country to citizens of the United States: Provided further (*a*) that no patent shall be issued for a longer term than 17 years; (*b*) that this Act shall not affect any patent granted upon an application pending at the time this Act takes effect, nor any patent granted to a citizen or subject of a foreign country which has no patent system."

Methods of Road-Preserving in Chicago.

H.M. Consul-General at Chicago (Mr. A. Finn) has forwarded a copy of a report on the methods of road-making in the Chicago district, with a view to minimising the damage done by fast-moving motor cars and other vehicles, as well as preventing dust.

The copy may be inspected by persons interested at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

MEXICO.

Guano Concessions.

The Mexican "Diario Oficial" of 26th February publishes the text of a contract between the Mexican Government and Mr. James P. Taylor, representing Mr. Harry J. Earle, amending a previous contract dated 26th September, 1907 (and notified in the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 24th October, 1907, p. 183) for removing guano from the islands of Contoy, Cancúm, Cayo Arenas, Chinchorros and Alacranes. By the terms of the amended contract the island of Cayo Arenas is removed from the list and the contractor is authorised to exploit the guano deposits on the other islands named for a period of ten years reckoning from the date of the former contract.

The same "Diario" notifies the signing of a contract between the Government and C. Lic. Roberto A. Esteva Ruiz, elucidating a former contract dated 18th September, 1906 (and notified in the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 18th October, p. 129). The new contract authorises Mr. George F. Archer, or any company he may organise for the purpose, to exploit guano in the islands of Arcas and Arenas, in the Gulf of Mexico, during a period of ten years counting from the date of the former contract.

The "Diario" of the 2nd March publishes the text of a similar contract between the Government and Mr. Benito Juárez for the

Miscellaneous.

exploitation of guano, for a period of ten years, in the islands of Duncán, Rasa, San Martín, Elide, San Jerónimo, San Luis and Adelaida, in the Pacific Ocean.

The "Diarios" referred to, containing the full text of the contracts in question, may be consulted at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E C.

BRAZIL.

Foreign Trade in 1907.

The "Brazilian Review" of 18th February publishes the following figures relating to the foreign trade of Brazil during the year 1907, as compared with the previous year :—

	1906.	1907.
	£	£
Imports	33,204,041	40,527,603
Exports	53,059,480	54,176,898
Total trade	86,263,521	94,704,501

The values of the principal articles of export were as follow :—

	1906.	1907.
	£	£
Coffee	27,615,884	28,559,063
Rubber	14,055,911	12,827,926
Tobacco	931,854	1,281,036
Sugar	606,217	135,700
Herva Matte	1,856,574	1,609,914
Cocoa	1,386,441	2,012,796
Cotton	1,656,730	1,734,507

CHINA.

Fee for Annual Registration of British Subjects residing in China.

The Board of Trade have received a copy of a regulation, dated 27th December, 1907, made by H.M. Minister at Peking, respecting the levy of a fee for the annual registration of British subjects residing in China. A fee of 2 dollars is to be paid by every person on every registration of himself as a British subject before a British Consular Officer, and each fee of 2 dollars which has been so paid since the 1st April, 1905, and previous to the publication of this regulation, shall be deemed to have been legally levied.

STATISTICAL TABLES.

Cotton Returns.

Return of the **Number** of **Bales** of **Cotton Imported** and **Exported** at the **Various Ports** of the **United Kingdom** during the week and 12 weeks ended 19th March, 1908 :—

—	Week ended 19th Mar., 1908.	12 Weeks ended 19th Mar., 1908.	Week ended 19th Mar., 1908.	12 Weeks ended 19th Mar., 1908.
	IMPORTS. (Bales.)		EXPORTS. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American	70,177	1,347,655	9,683	91,855
Brazilian	2,525	17,982	1	1,412
East Indian	5,154	30,971	680	8,302
Egyptian	15,889	159,668	2,857	32,666
Miscellaneous	1,002*	20,239†	208	1,984
Total	94,747	1,576,515	13,429	136,219

* Including 206 bales British West Indian and 26 bales British West African.
† " 2,826 " " " 1,033 " "

Corn Prices.

Statement showing the **Average Price** of **British Corn,** per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure.* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 21st March, 1908, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

—	Average Price.					
	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 21st March, 1908	31	7	26	2	17	11
Corresponding week in—						
1901	26	0	24	9	18	0
1902	27	2	27	2	20	7
1903	25	2	22	4	17	0
1904	28	2	22	8	16	7
1905	30	9	25	2	17	0
1906	28	4	24	4	18	8
1907	26	10	24	0	18	1

* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 21st March, 1908, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

—		Week ended 21st Mar., 1908.	*Corresponding Week in 1907.*
Animals, living:—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number.	9,535	*7,839*
Sheep and lambs	"	2,714	*1,946*
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	111	*307*
Fresh meat:—			
Beef (including refrigerated and frozen) ...	Cwts.	109,387	*104,765*
Mutton " " " ...	"	83,173	*90,155*
Pork " " " ...	"	12,491	*14,443*
Salted or preserved meat:—			
Bacon	Cwts.	127,728	*110,233*
Beef	"	1,680	*3,558*
Hams	"	24,856	*18,164*
Pork	"	5,920	*4,206*
Meat, unenumerated, fresh	"	15,054	*14,961*
" " salted	"	1,729	*876*
" preserved otherwise than by salting (including tinned and canned)	"	4,416	*3,554*
Dairy produce and substitutes:—			
Butter	Cwts.	84,228	*76,364*
Margarine	"	17,658	*18,876*
Cheese	"	14,611	*27,891*
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	—	—
" cream	"	78	*34*
" condensed	"	14,167	*21,889*
" preserved, other kinds	"	130	*88*
Eggs	Grt. Hundr.	255,230	*393,557*
Poultry	Value £	9,903	*10,828*
Game	"	1,372	*9,366*
Rabbits, dead (fresh and frozen)	Cwts.	5,356	*7,871*
Lard	"	54,871	*51,370*
Corn, grain, meal, and flour:—			
Wheat	Cwts.	2,016,200	*1,732,100*
Wheat meal and flour	"	278,300	*288,000*
Barley	"	203,700	*375,800*
Oats	"	334,500	*140,200*
Peas	"	23,210	*23,130*
Beans	"	19,500	*2,650*
Maize or Indian corn	"	558,800	*964,600*
Fruit, raw:—			
Apples	Cwts.	65,289	*59,702*
Apricots and peaches	"	—	*19*
Bananas	Bunches.	137,696	*120,247*
Cherries	Cwts.	—	—
Currants	"	—	—
Gooseberries	"	—	—
Grapes	"	1,261	*625*
Lemons	"	19,376	*19,122*
Oranges	"	189,144	*210,783*
Pears	"	86	*461*
Plums	"	—	*155*
Strawberries	"	—	—
Unenumerated	"	205	*2,719*
Hay	Tons.	262	*2,307*
Straw	"	163	*870*
Moss litter	"	2,159	*1,995*
Hops	Cwts.	1,560	*5,340*
Locust beans	"	14,272	*7,575*
Vegetables, raw:—			
Onions	Bushels.	109,896	*114,196*
Potatoes	Cwts.	170,775	*26,464*
Tomatoes	"	28,221	*21,759*
Unenumerated	Value £	9,271	*11,009*
Vegetables, dried	Cwts.	4,033	*1,757*
Preserved by canning	"	5,499	*7,939*

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of February, 1908, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance, of 1*s.* 4*d.* per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1906, in two volumes and a Supplement, may be purchased at a cost of 6*s.* 8*d.* for the first volume, 3*s.* 4*d.* for the second volume, and 3*s.* 9*d.* for the Supplement, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1902-1906, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, in the second volume details as to customs revenue, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country, and in the Supplement, Abstract and detailed tables showing countries of consignment of imports, and countries of ultimate destination of exports.

BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette"* is published by the Board of Trade on the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the March issue:—State of the Labour Market in February; Cost of Living of the Working Classes in London; Railway Conciliation Boards; Output of Coal and Employment at Coal Mines in 1907; Recent Conciliation Cases; Fatal Industrial Accidents in 1907.

FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in Consular Reports of the **Annual Series** issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal":—

ANNUAL SERIES.

No. 3,962. Trade of Servia for the Year 1906.

Total trade shows a decrease on 1905 of 466,567*l.*

Analysis of the import and export trade, showing trade by countries and principal articles, with observations.

Coal production and trade.

Details of trade with the United Kingdom.

* It can be purchased through any newsagent, price 1*d.*

Government Publications.

No. 3,963. Report on the Economic Condition of Hungary for the Years 1906–7.

Harvest of 1907.
Agricultural and social legislation.
Foreign trade during 1906 and 1907.
Financial situation.
Railway improvements.
Regulation of rivers.
Bounties to shippiug and shipbuilding.

OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

East India (Trade). Tables relating to the Trade of British India with British Possessions and Foreign Countries, 1902–3 *to* 1906–7. [*Cd.* 3,969.] *Price* 1*s.* 4*d.*

This return contains statistics of the foreign trade of British India during the last five financial years. In 1906–7 the total value of the imports of merchandise (exclusive of Government stores) into British India by sea was 72,205,055*l.*, as compared with 68,722,713*l.* in 1905–6, whilst the total value of the exports of merchandise of Indian produce and manufactures (exclusive of Government stores) was 115,388,249*l.*, as against 105,459,482*l.* in the preceding financial year. The total of the imports into, and the exports from, British India, by land and sea (inclusive of Government stores and treasure) amounted in 1906–7 to 241,264,293*l.*, as compared with 225,217,046*l.* in 1905–6.

Board of Agriculture and Fisheries. Agricultural Statistics, 1907. *Vol. XLII. Part II. Returns of Produce of Crops in Great Britain, with Summaries for the United Kingdom.* [*Cd.* 3,989.] *Price* 4*d.*

This return shows the total produce and yield per acre of the principal crops in each county of Great Britain during 1907, with summaries for the United Kingdom. Preliminary statistics of the wheat, barley and oat crops in Great Britain were published in the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 28th November last, p. 406.

Government Publications.

LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

THE following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** Series since the 1st January, 1908, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

No.	Place.	Price
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3960	Finances, 1907–8	3*d.*
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	Persia:	
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	Mexico:	
3958	Mexican Budget for 1908–9	1½*d.*
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	Colombia:	
3956	Colombia, 1907	1*d.*
	WEST INDIES—	
3954	Cuba, 1906	1*d.*

Treaty Series.

The following numbers of the Treaty Series, issued by the Foreign Office since the 1st January, 1908, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C.:—

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6	Accession of Sweden to the International Sanitary Convention signed at Paris, December 3rd, 1903	½*d.*
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1	Commercial Convention, Protocol, and Declaration between the United Kingdom and Bulgaria	3*d.*
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5	Accession of Colombia to the Convention signed at Geneva, 6th July, 1906, for the amelioration of the condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armies in the Field	½*d.*

Government Publications.

COLONIAL OFFICE REPORTS.

The following Reports relating to H.M. Colonial Possessions, issued since the 1st January, 1908, may be purchased from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.:—

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553	St. Lucia, 1906–7	2*d.*
554	Southern Nigeria, 1906	11*d.*
555	St. Vincent, 1906–7	2*d.*
556	Basutoland, 1906-7	3*d.*

Miscellaneous.

No.	Place.	Price.
45	East Africa Protectorate: Report relating to the Geology of	6*d.*
46	Northern Nigeria: Second Report on the results of the Mineral Survey, 1904–5...	2*d.*
47	Northern Nigeria: Report on the results of the Mineral Survey, 1905–6	2½*d.*
48	Nyasaland Protectorate: Report on the results of the Mineral Survey, 1906–7	2½*d.*
49	East Africa Protectorate: Annual Report of the Veterinary Department, 1906–7	3½*d.*

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade (No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.) is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference, and at which, so far as the interests of British trade permit, replies shall be given to enquiries by traders on commercial matters. On application being made to it either personally or by letter, the Branch supplies, so far as is possible, information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender. Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c. There is a Sample Room at the offices of the Branch, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from India, the Colonies, &c., are exhibited from time to time. The Governments of India, Canada, and Queensland, also the Governments

of the Transvaal and Orange River Colony, have established, in proximity to the Commercial Intelligence Branch, at 73, Basinghall Street, special offices for dealing with trade matters (see below).

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is issued weekly at the price of 3*d*. All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

Special Indian and Colonial Trade Enquiry Offices.

India.—The India Trade Enquiry Office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., has been established for the purpose of supplying the general public with all available information as to the commercial products, manufactures and trades of British India. The office is under the superintendence of an India Office official, who is in daily attendance to answer personal or written enquiries. The current publications of the Government of India dealing with Indian Trade statistics, tariff charges, railways, economic products, &c., are kept in the office, and can be consulted free: the various Indian Directories are also filed.

Canada.—The Canadian Government have secured premises at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where an office has been opened, under the designation of "Canadian Government City Trade Branch," for the convenience of the commercial community. A Canadian representative attends daily to deal with enquiries and applications regarding Canadian import and export trade, and to supply information about Canadian matters generally. Personal appointments can be arranged when desired.

Victoria.—The Government of Victoria (Australia) have an extensive and varied collection of products of the State on view at the Show Room of their London Offices (142, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.). Lists of the Exporters of the State, with their Agents in the United Kingdom, and full particulars relating to the trade, prospects, &c., of the State, can be obtained upon application to the Agent-General for Victoria, at the above address.

New South Wales.—With a view to facilitating the acquiring of information regarding the State's products, the New South Wales Government have a commercial branch attached to the Agent-General's Department at 123-125, Cannon Street, E.C. A great variety of specimens are on view—typical of the mineral, timber, agricultural and other products of the country. Full information

SPECIAL INDIAN AND COLONIAL TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICES—*continued.*

is given here, free of cost, to all desirous of particulars respecting New South Wales. Mr. Walter Preedy (formerly of the State Agricultural Department) is at present in charge of this branch.

Queensland.—For the convenience of the commercial community in the City of London, the Agent-General for Queensland has opened a branch office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where a representative attends daily to give information to enquirers regarding trade, mining, and all other matters relating to Queensland. A collection of articles representative of the pastoral, agricultural, and mining industries of Queensland is on view, and information regarding these industries can be obtained at the Office, as above.

South Australia.—The Government of South Australia have established a Produce Department at the offices of the Agent General, Threadneedle House, 28, Bishopsgate Street Within, London, E.C. Mr. A. E. M. Norton, the Commercial Agent, is in charge of this department, and he will supply, free of cost, full information regarding the exports from South Australia of all sorts of Produce. Specimens of every description of South Australian Produce are now displayed in one of the offices of the Commercial Agent's Department.

Cape of Good Hope.—The Government of the Cape of Good Hope have offices at 98, Victoria Street, London, S.W., for the purpose of a Commercial Agency for that Colony, under the superintendence of the Trades Commissioner, who, together with the Commercial Agent, deals with, and supplies free, information on trade subjects connected with the Colony, such as commercial products, industries, trade, tariff regulations, commercial statistics, railway rates, prospects for emigration, &c., &c.

Natal.—The Government of Natal have established a Commercial Agency for that Colony at 26, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S.W., for the purpose of finding and extending the markets for the products of the Colony. The Commercial Agent, Mr. C. W. Francis Harrison, will supply, gratis, information on trade and industrial subjects connected with the Colony, commercial statistics, tariffs, railway rates, shipping freights, emigration particulars, &c. Specimens of certain descriptions of Natal produce are exhibited at the above-mentioned address.

Transvaal and Orange River Colony.—A Trade Enquiry Office has been opened at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C. by the Governments of the Transvaal and Orange River Colony, but under the general direction of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade. The Superintendent in charge of the Office deals with, and supplies free, information in regard to the products and resources of the two Colonies, the opportunities they present to the settler, their railway facilities, the regulations of all kinds in force in them affecting trade, &c., &c.

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Edited by the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

MARCH 26, 1908.

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And from their sub-agents, G. STREET & Co., LTD., 30, CORNHILL, LONDON, E.C.
OLIVER & BOYD, TWEEDDALE COURT, EDINBURGH; or,
EDWARD PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

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Annual Statement of the Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom for the Year 1906. Vol. I. [Cd. 3466/07.] Price 6*s.* 8*d.* Vol. II. [Cd. 3529/07.] Price 3*s.* 4*d.* Supplement to Vols. I. and II. [Cd. 3687/07.] Price 3*s.* 9*d.*
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Bankruptcy. Report for the Year 1906. [295/07.] Price 7*d.*
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Railway Returns of the United Kingdom for the Year 1906. [Cd. 3705/07.] Price 1*s.* 3*d.*
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Statistical Abstract for the Colonies. 1892-1906. [Cd. 3707/07.] Price 1*s.* 11*d.*
Statistical Abstract for Foreign Countries. 1895 to 1904-05. [Cd. 3291/07.] Price 1*s.* 6*d.*
Statistical Tables relating to British Colonies, Possessions and Protectorates. Part XXX. 1905. [Cd. 3706/07.] Price 6*s.* 7*d.*

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Accounts relating to Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom. Feb., 1908. [25. I.] Price 1*s.* 4*d.*
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Wholesale and Retail Prices in the United Kingdom in 1902, with comparative Statistical Tables for a series of years. [321/1903.] Price 2*s.* 1*d.*

The "BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE," the monthly Journal of the Labour Department of the Board of Trade (Price 1*d.*) can be obtained, either directly or through any newsagent, from Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C. or Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or E. Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street Dublin.

CONTRACTS.

Richmond Main Sewerage Board.
Pumping Machinery.

The Board are prepared to receive tenders for the Construction, Erection, Setting to Work, and Meintenance of Two Pumping Engines, each capable of raising 7,000 gallons per minute. The contract comprises Vertical Gas Engines, driving Centrifugal Pumps, with Shafting, Gearing, Air Compressor, Receiver, Pipe Work, Beams, and all appurtenant Works necessary to complete the Plant for the purpose of pumping sewage and storm water.

Specification and drawings may be inspected at the Office of Mr. William Fairley, Civil Engineer, 69, Victoria Street, Westminster, also at the Pumping Station where the machinery is to be installed, West Hall Road, Kew Gardens.

A copy of the specification and form of tender, but not of the drawings, may be obtained on personal application, and deposit of a crossed cheque for £5 5s., made payable to the Board, which deposit will be returned on receipt of a bona-fide tender and return of all documents.

Sealed tenders, on forms provided by the Board, endorsed "Pumping Machinery," must be received by the undersigned on or before Tuesday, the 31st March, 1908.

Security for the due fulfilment of the contract will be required in accordance with the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1875.

The Board do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

J. LESLIE G. POWELL,
Clerk to the Board.

The Sessions House.
Richmond, Surrey,
26th February, 1908.

RUSSIA.—The municipal authorities of Wilna are about to invite tenders for the supply of a tubular boiler, steam turbine and dynamo for the central electric lighting station.

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CONTRACTS.

Great Western Railway.
Contract for Stationery, &c.

The Directors of this Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply of Stationery, &c., for a period of three years, commencing on July 1 next, under the following separate contracts, viz.:—

No. 1. Forms.
" 2. Books.
" 3. Envelopes, Pastry Bags, Dish Papers, &c.
" 4. Paper.
" 5. Sundries.

Conditions of contract and forms of tender may be obtained, and patterns seen, at the Stationery Office, 66, Porchester-road, London, W., on and after Wednesday, March 11.

Tenders addressed to the undersigned, and marked outside "Tender for Stationery," will be received on or before Monday, April 27.

The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

G. K. MILLS,
Secretary.

Paddington Station, London,
March 4, 1908.

Tender for Floating Crane.
Quebec Harbour Commissioners
of Quebec, Canada,
will receive tenders up to the 1st of May
next for the supply of a
Thirty (30) Ton Capacity Floating
Crane,
particulars of which may be had from the Commissioners' Chief Engineer on application.

The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

ST. GEO. BOSWELL,
Chief Engineer.

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Parade, Birmingham.
COLONIAL AGENCIES INVITED.

CONTRACTS.

Indian Public Works Department.

The Secretary of State for India in ouncil will, in the summer of 1908, make about thirty-nine (39) Appointments of Assistant Engineer in the permanent establishment of the Indian Public Works Department.

Candidates must have attained the age of 21, and not attained the age of 24 years on the 1st July, 1908.

A printed form of application, together with information regarding the conditions of the appointments, and certain requirements laid down as to education and experience in engineering, may be obtained from the Secretary, Public Department, India Office, Whitehall, London, S.W.

The form of application is to be returned so as to reach him not later than Friday, 1st May, 1908.

A. GODLEY,
Under Secretary of State.

India Office,
10th September, 1907.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC, June, 1908.—The municipal authorities of Buenos Ayres are reported to be about to invite tenders for the concession for the construction and working of an underground electric tramway in the city. Tenders will be received until June 1st, 1908, and particulars may be had from the Legation in Paris.

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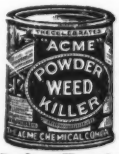

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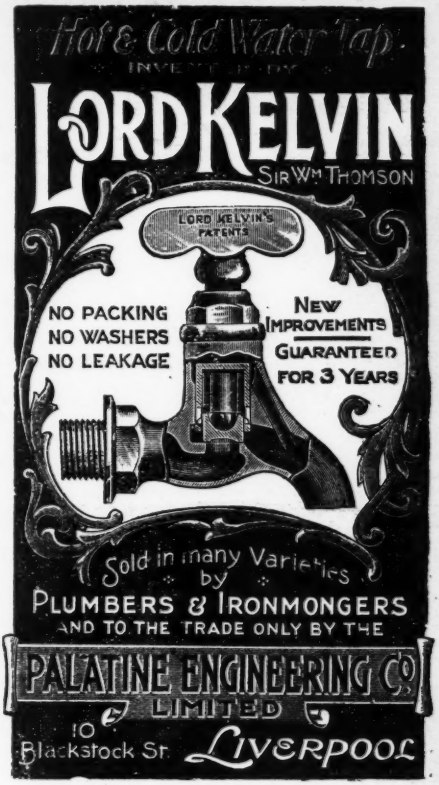

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